

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
RANKING MEMBER

ENERGY AND WATER



ZACH WAMP
UNITED STATES CONGRESS
THIRD DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
September 4, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1436 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3271 (202) 225-3494 Fax

DISTRICT OFFICES:
200 ADMINISTRATION ROAD, SUITE 100
P.O. BOX 2001
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830
(865) 576-1976 (865) 576-3221 Fax

FEDERAL COURTHOUSE, SUITE 126
900 GEORGIA AVENUE
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402
(423) 756-2342 (423) 756-6613 Fax

Mike Duncan
Chairman
Board of Directors
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 W Summit Hill Dr
Knoxville, TN 37902-1401

Dear Chairman Duncan:

As a staunch supporter and defender of the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) commitment to provide low-cost electricity to residents and businesses of the Valley, I was disappointed that the Board voted to approve a plan that will reduce retirement benefits for more than 34,000 TVA employees and retirees. The decision comes at an especially difficult time as individuals and families across the Valley are struggling to make ends meet in an uncertain economy.

Your dedicated, hardworking employees deserve to know the retirement benefits they have worked for and were promised will be there when they need them. While I understand the tremendous challenges facing TVA, I respectfully ask that you reconsider this multi-year plan and commit to revisit your obligation on an annual basis as has been your policy in the past.

If sacrifices are required for TVA employees and retirees, it is my hope that they are made agency-wide and lucrative year-end bonuses are not awarded. Under these circumstances, excessive compensation for executives will undoubtedly prompt public outcry and undermine my efforts to defend TVA.

Warmest regards,


Zach Wamp
Member of Congress

ZW/lc